Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 MC-02 IO-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /066 W 037456

O 061229Z MAY 75 FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3833

INFO SECDEF WASHDC CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, MASS, MARR, MILI, PFOR, TH

SUBJECT: REMOVAL OF US-SUPPLIED AIRCRAFT FROM THAILAND

- 1. CDA MET TODAY WITH FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN AND DISCUSSED THE STATUS OF AIRCRAFT FLOWN TO THAILAND BY VNAF PILOTS (REPORTED SEPTEL).
- 2. CONCERNING THE STATUS OF THOSE PLANES, WE HAVE RECEIVED PRESS QUERIES AND HAVE REPLIED AS FOLLOWS:
- Q1: CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSED WITH THE US CDA TODAY THE VNAF AIRPLANES AT UTAPAO?
- A1: I CAN CONFIRM THAT THEY MET; HOWEVER, AS USUAL WE DO NOT
- DISCUSS THE SUBSTANCE OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS.
- Q2: HAS THE US SUSPENDED REMOVAL OF THOSE AIRCRAFT AS THE FOREIGN
- MINISTER SAID HE HAD TOLD CDA TO DO?
- A2: YES, WE HAVE AGREED TO A TEMPORARY SUSPENSION. ANY FURTHER COMMENT ON THE FUTURE DISPOSITION OF ANY OF THIS MATERIAL WILL
- HAVE TO COME FROM WASHINGTON.
- Q3: HAS THE US REMOVED ANY OF THE VNAF AIRCRAFT FROM THAILAND?
 A3: AS THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SPOKESMAN IN WASHINGTON SAID
 ON MAY 5, SOME AIRCRAFT -- C130'S -- HAVE BEEN FLOWN TO CLARK
 AIR FORCE BASE AND SOME OF THE OTHERS HAVE BEEN REMOVED BY

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SHIP.

Q4: WERE THEY REMOVED BY THE USS MIDWAY?

A4: THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SPOKESMAN ACKNOWLEDGED MAY 5 THAT

THE USS MIDWAY HAD LOADED SOME OF THE AIRCRAFT ABOARD.

Q5: WHERE IS THE USS MIDWAY NOW?

A5: AS USUAL, WE DO NOT DISCUSS THE MOVEMENTS OF US NAVAL VESSELS.

Q6: WERE THOSE AIRCRAFT REMOVED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF OR AFTER

CONSULTATION WITH THE THAI GOVERNMENT?

A6: YES; IT IS NORMAL PRACTICE FOR THE US TO INFORM AND CONFER

WITH APPROPRIATE THAI OFFICIALS ABOUT THE MOVEMENT OF US AIR AND

SEA CRAFT INTO AND OUT OF THAILAND. FURTHER, AS YOU KNOW,

THE US SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ASSERTED MAY 1 THAT THE US RETAINS

ULTIMATE TITLE TO EQUIPMENT GIVEN TO THE GVN BY THE US. THIS

WAS MADE PUBLIC IN WASHINGTON AND REPORTED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

Q7: ARE ANY OF THE VNAF AIRPLANES STILL AT UTAPAO?

A7: THERE ARE SOME, AND AS I STATED EARLIER, ANY COMMENT ON THE

FUTURE DISPOSITION OF ANY OF THIS MATERIEL WILL HAVE TO COME FROM $\,$

WASHINGTON.

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Message Attributes

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Subject: REMOVAL OF US-SUPPLIED AIRCRAFT FROM THAILAND

TAGS: SOPN, MASS, MARR, MILI, PFOR, TH To: STATE

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